

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method of designing a communication architecture comprising:

a) receiving a partitioned system, communication architecture topology, input traces and performance matrices;

b) analyzing and creating communication analysis graph (CAG);

c) partitioning communication instances to create partition clusters using the following sub-steps;

(c)(i) analyzing the CAG to measure impact of individual communication instance delays on system performance;

(c)(ii) measuring performance impact of an instance using sensitivity; and

(c)(iii) grouping instances having a similar impact on system performance into a same partition.

d) evaluating cluster statistics related to the partition clusters and assigning parameter values to the partition clusters to form a new system with new communication architecture;

e) reanalyzing the new system and recomputing performance metrics;

~~f) if performance is improved then synthesizing CATs to realize optimized protocols; and~~

~~g) if performance is not improved then returning to step c; and~~

g) if performance is improved then synthesizing CATs to realize optimized protocols;

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein said sensitivity of the system performance to a communication instance is measured as follows:

perturbing an existing delay of the communication instance by a predetermined value;

traversing a transition fanout of the communication instance in the CAG;

recomputing a start and finish time of affected vertices; and

calculating changes in the system performance using recomputed finish times.

4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein step d is accomplished by deriving a metric that penalizes a partition having a negative impact on delays of communication events in other partitions.

5. (original): The method of claim 4 wherein said metric is calculated as follows:

analyzing the CAG and evaluating for each partition pair CP_i CP_j an amount of time for which communication events that belong to CP_i are delayed due to events from CP_j to form delay statistics ; and

combining the delay statistics into a formula that produces an optimum parameter assignment.

6. (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said parameter assignment is done using heuristics.

7. (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said parameter is priority.

8. (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said parameter is DMA block size.

9. (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said parameter assignment takes into account hardware complexity of implementing the parameter.